



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/634,384	08/09/2000	Harold R. Blomquist	TRW(VSSIM)4784	5166

7590

05/07/2002

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EXAMINER

MILLER, EDWARD A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3641

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 3641

1. The reply filed on 12 February 2002 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

The amendment filed October 16, 2001 cancelled claims 1-10, and 20, and added claims 22-32. Although this amendment was non-responsive on the merits, it was in proper form and was entered. Nowhere in Paper No. 10 was there any indication that the amendment was not entered, as opposed to being non-responsive. Now come applicants, amending claim 1 and taking other action ostensibly to respond to Paper No. 10. All claims currently pending that ostensibly would include the elected species depend on claim 1. Claim 1 stands cancelled. To ostensibly amend claims which have been cancelled, and to present claims 22-25 which use the same claim numbers of previously added claims, but which are drawn to different subject matter, and without amending the claims in accordance with the rules, is improper. **The current amendment cannot be entered** because the amendment is not in accord with the rules on claim amendments, and it fails to deal with the case as it exists, e.g., that the amendment filed October 16, 2001 was entered. The instant amendment does not make any sense in view of the application as it exists, it is not in accord with the rules relative to claim amendments, including the requirement to present for examination claims which have been cancelled by presenting a new claims with the next higher number from the previously numbered claims, etc., and relative to the numbering of claims. See all parts of 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c), and 1.126.

2. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment.


**EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

3. Any inquiry concerning either this or an earlier communication from the Examiner should be directed to Examiner Edward A. Miller at (703) 306-4163. Examiner Miller may normally be reached Monday-Thursday, from 10 AM to 7 PM.

If attempts to reach Examiner Miller by telephone are unsuccessful, his supervisor Mr. Carone can be reached at (703) 306-4198. The Group fax number is (703) 305-7687.

If there is no answer, or for any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the application status, please call the Group receptionist at (703) 308-1113.

Miller/em  
May 6, 2002



EDWARD A. MILLER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER